

FERINTOSH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ONLINE ON MONDAY 20 APRIL 2020

MEMBERS: Adam Fletcher (Associate), Karen Harcus, Alison Lowe, Gordon Morris, Bruce Morrison (Secretary), Alastair Macintyre, Becky Richmond (Chair), Eilidh Richmond (Treasurer).

ALSO PRESENT: 3 residents.

APOLOGIES: Sally Falconer, Iain McCallum, PC John MacPherson, 2 residents.

POLICE MATTERS: The monthly report received included one reported theft from Black Isle Dairy, Rootfield Farm, which is being investigated.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: (excluding actions carried out, carried forward and those considered later in the agenda): **Carers' Respite:** Becky to contact Culbokie Church when its Board again meets.

MINUTES: Correction: Last month's minutes should have included an action to lobby Councillors to consider resurfacing, as a priority, the road from the A835 through to the Hector MacDonald monument (meeting the B9169). (Action has been carried out by Gordon and Becky /Gordon will consult with the resident who raised this issue to consider other action).

Last month's minutes were approved (proposed by Alison, seconded by Karen).

FINANCIAL REPORT: Eilidh reported no transactions this month. The financial year therefore ends with £5231.01 in the bank account and, with £257 of outstanding cheques to be cashed, there is a positive net balance of £4974.01 to begin the new financial year. In the current circumstances, THC will permit the submission of end of year accounts without certification in order to release the annual grant.

CORRESPONDENCE and REQUESTS: Becky explained that there has been a high volume of correspondence concerning the coronavirus crisis and considerable relevant information has been put up on the FCC website; **Black Isle Cares** is seeking views of residents' priorities for it to consider for its 5 year plan (send out to email list); **Police Scotland** is seeking views on how it is responding to the crisis (out to email list); **Lobbyist for localisation of electricity** supply and tariffs: FCC agreed not to become involved with lobby groups; **Police Scotland** has issued advice to residents not to speed on the empty roads and continue to restrict journeys to those that are essential; **Resident** has informed FCC of gatherings of teenagers and adults at the football field/ recycling area who are not maintaining social distancing; **Dingwall Ward** is organising Here to Help conference calls (Becky has offered to join); **BEAR:** work at the B9163 /A835 junction cannot be completed currently so speed restrictions will stay in place. A resident has pointed out how much safer the junction has become and would like FCC to note this point for any discussions regarding the safety of this junction at a later stage.

ACTIVE PROJECTS: (Updates below on all FCC's linkages but only if new information)

Community Resilience Group: Becky described the outstanding response from residents (approx. 47 volunteers) and passed on a big thank you on behalf of FCC. It is clear that friends, families and neighbours are carrying out quietly most of the support work in the community and Becky also passed on a big thank you. Becky also wished to congratulate Innes and the staff in the Spar Culbokie for providing such a fantastic extra service to the community.

Cllr Gordon Adam has been chairing regular conference call discussions with community councils and care organisations on the Black Isle to keep them informed and to help set up a financial help mechanism. The

Black Isle Partnership has agreed to act as the body that will draw down Government funds (a part time manager has been taken on) and will help distribute financial help. In the Ferintosh area, there is a proposal for a local Board (representing FCC, CCT and the two Churches) to be able to confidentially receive approaches from those requiring stop gap funding from the BIP. Becky has been impressed by THC's efforts in creating a Community Hub in Dingwall ready to provide food wherever necessary and for its communication. Adam pointed out, however, poor support for local businesses.

Noticeboard: The recent transformed edition has received considerable plaudits from residents and Eilidh was congratulated on her terrific effort.

Buses/Community Transport: No update.

Email list: Numbers increased by 14 names to 652 with thanks to Karen, Gordon and Alastair.

Mulbuie 40mph Project: No work done.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS (only new information included):

Comments lodged:

18/05853/FUL: New house, garage/house unit, large shed, Plot 15, The Cairns, Culbokie (oversize garage).

19/03052/FUL & 18/05537/PIP: Eight acres development (roads /pavement concerns). 19/03052/FUL has been granted. Does THC have the resources to monitor this application? **Action: Iain**

New Application:

20/01234/FUL: House extension, Upper Badrain: No comment

20/01000/FUL: Garage and car port, 10 The Cairns, Culbokie: Granted

20/01084 /FUL: House and camping pods, 150m NE Grianan, Braes of Dunvornie: FCC to object (inappropriate scale and use of crofting land; road safety concerns).

20/01453 /FUL: Retrospective application for woodworking business, Old Grain Store, Culbokie: Comment on need to restrict noise (soundproofing) to working hours on Monday to Saturday.

20/01335 /FUL: Renewal of permission for house, Craobhan Ard, Glascairn Road, Culbokie: No comment

THC Planners: New process to be tested when comments submitted. **Action: Iain**

AOCB: Offer of books and audio books: still unclear how to move these around within current lockdown guidelines but perhaps a system could be constructed initially for those who are being shielded for 12 weeks where this may be seen as essential support (Action: Becky /Bruce); **Flooding** in wheat field from Crask junction (Action: Gordon); **Brown Bin** collection: can this be reinstated early to suppress fly tipping? (Becky to BICCS); Becky thanked Adam for his terrific work on the **website** and Bruce for his work with the **volunteers**.

INTERACTION WITH RESIDENTS: Residents thanked FCC for the opportunity to join remotely and thought the experience went well; A resident was concerned about speeding on the B9169 between the Leanaig and the A9, especially approaching the junctions (Alastair to contact Police Scotland).

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 18 MAY, AGM and Monthly Meeting; venue and time tbc.

Contact details for comments; to join the email list; to receive minutes electronically:

Bruce Morrison, Secretary, 01349 877127; ferintoshcc30@gmail.com, <http://ferintoshcc.co.uk>;
<http://fb.me/Ferintosh>